



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

Amendment

LCO No. 7443

SB0089307443HD0

Offered by:

REP. CURREY, 10th Dist.

REP. MERRILL, 54th Dist.

REP. HAMZY, 78th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 893

File No. 78

Cal. No. 555

(As Amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A")

"AN ACT CONCERNING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION."

1 Strike sections 4 and 5 in their entirety, substitute the following in
2 lieu thereof and renumber remaining sections accordingly:

3 "Sec. 4. Subsection (e) of section 10-16p of the general statutes is
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
5 *1, 2003*):

6 (e) (1) Ninety-three per cent of the amount appropriated for
7 purposes of this section shall be used for the grant program pursuant
8 to subsection (c) of this section. Priority school districts and former
9 priority school districts shall receive grants based on their proportional
10 share of the sum of the products obtained by multiplying the average
11 number of enrolled kindergarten students in each priority school
12 district and in each former priority school district for the three years

13 prior to the year the grant is to be paid, by the ratio of the average
14 percentage of free and reduced price meals for all severe need schools
15 in such district to the minimum percentage requirement for severe
16 need school eligibility, provided no such school district shall receive a
17 grant that is less than the grant it received for the prior fiscal year or a
18 grant that is less than one hundred fifty thousand dollars.

19 (2) Six and five-tenths per cent of the amount appropriated for
20 purposes of this section shall be used for the competitive grant
21 program pursuant to subsection (d) of this section.

22 (3) The Department of Education may retain up to five-tenths of one
23 per cent of the amount appropriated for purposes of this section for
24 coordination, program evaluation and administration.

25 (4) If a town that is eligible for a grant pursuant to subsection (c) of
26 this section does not submit, by January first, a plan which is
27 subsequently approved for the expenditure of the entire amount of
28 funds for which such town is eligible, the department may use [up to
29 fifty per cent of] any amounts such town has not earmarked for
30 expenditure to (A) provide supplemental grants to other towns that
31 are eligible for grants pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, or (B)
32 enhance the system of professional development for pre-school
33 educators in programs receiving funds pursuant to this section."

34 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
35 internal references accordingly:

36 "Sec. 501. Section 10-145d of the general statutes is amended by
37 adding subsections (f) to (h), inclusive, as follows (*Effective July 1,*
38 *2003*):

39 (NEW) (f) An endorsement to teach elementary education shall be
40 valid for grades kindergarten to six, inclusive, and an endorsement to
41 teach comprehensive special education shall be valid for grades
42 kindergarten to twelve, inclusive.

43 (NEW) (g) For the purposes of issuance of certificates, permits and
44 authorizations by the State Board of Education under the provisions of
45 sections 10-144o to 10-149, inclusive, as amended by this act, teaching
46 experience in approved nonpublic schools shall include teaching
47 experience in birth-to-three programs approved by the Department of
48 Mental Retardation.

49 (NEW) (h) On and after July 1, 2003, a teacher holding an educator
50 certificate with an endorsement to teach elementary education under
51 subsection (f) of this section, who, for the first time, is assigned to teach
52 kindergarten, shall, not later than one year after such kindergarten
53 assignment, complete a program of professional development in early
54 childhood education that meets specific content areas, as designated by
55 the Department of Education.

56 Sec. 502. Subsection (d) of section 10-16p of the general statutes is
57 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
58 *passage*):

59 (d) The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
60 Commissioner of Social Services, shall establish a competitive grant
61 program to provide spaces in accredited or approved school readiness
62 programs for eligible children who reside in an area served by a
63 priority school or a former priority school that has formerly received a
64 grant pursuant to this subsection. A town in which such a school is
65 located or a regional school readiness council, pursuant to subsection
66 (c) of section 10-16r, for a region in which such a school is located may
67 apply for such a grant in an amount not to exceed one hundred
68 thousand dollars per priority school or for a former priority school in
69 an amount not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars in the first
70 year that such school is no longer a priority school, not to exceed
71 eighty thousand dollars in the second year that such school is no
72 longer a priority school, not to exceed sixty thousand dollars in the
73 third year that such school is no longer a priority school, not to exceed
74 forty thousand dollars in the fourth year that such school is no longer a
75 priority school, and not to exceed twenty thousand dollars in the fifth

76 year that such school is no longer a priority school. Eligibility shall be
77 determined for a five-year period based on an applicant's designation
78 as having a priority school for the initial year of application. Grant
79 awards shall be made annually contingent upon available funding and
80 a satisfactory annual evaluation. The chief elected official of such town
81 and the superintendent of schools of the school district or the regional
82 school readiness council shall submit a plan, as described in subsection
83 (c) of this section, for the expenditure of such grant funds to the
84 Department of Education. In awarding grants pursuant to this
85 subsection, the commissioner shall give preference to applications
86 submitted by regional school readiness councils and may, within
87 available appropriations, provide a grant in excess of one hundred
88 thousand dollars to towns with two or more priority schools in such
89 district. A town or regional school readiness council awarded a grant
90 pursuant to this subsection shall use the funds to purchase spaces for
91 such children from providers of accredited or approved school
92 readiness programs."